

Ars
Ecclesiastica

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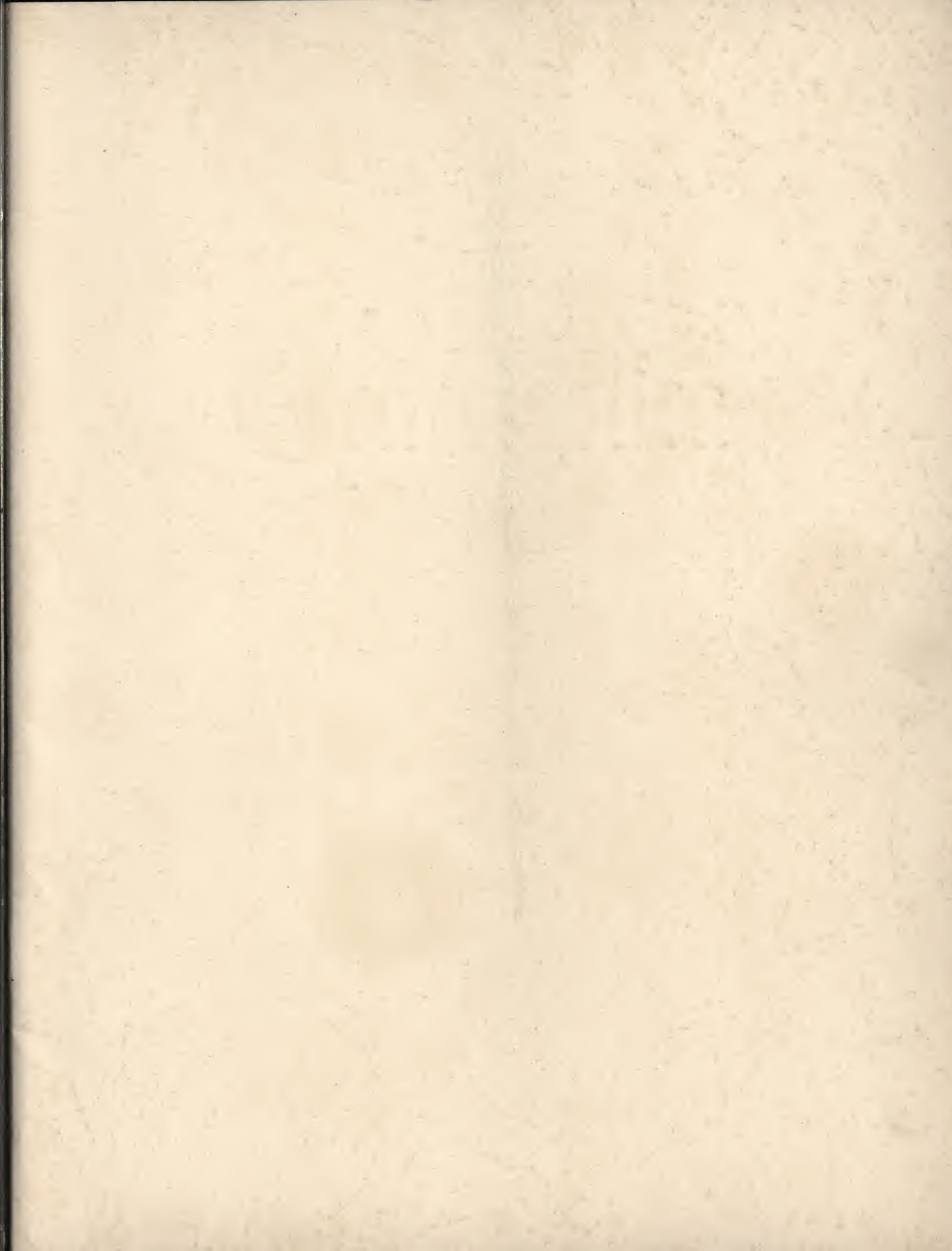
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Ars Ecclesiastica



The
Wood Carving Studios
of the
American Seating
Company

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by
American Seating Company

THE WOOD CARVING STUDIOS OF
AMERICAN SEATING COMPANY

NEW YORK
119 West 40th Street

CHICAGO
14 East Jackson Boulevard

PHILADELPHIA
250 South Broad Street

CC 113704



EVERY church fulfills to a greater or less degree two ideals. In one the ideal of worship predominates, in the other the ideal of service to man. Exemplifying the spirit of worship are the countless cathedrals and shrines of both the old world and the new, whose beauty and magnificence are the pride and marvel of all time. As we view their splendid beauty and consider the infinite pains and devotion that have gone into their construction, we cannot but respect the fine spirit which inspired their erection.

The art of ecclesiastical wood carving has in all ages sought to give fitting and satisfying expression to these two ideals of religious worship and service.

Working within the confines of the medium so intimately bound up with interior church architecture — sculptural wood — it has been our aim at all times sincerely to maintain the highest traditions and ideals of this noble ecclesiastical art and to interpret these in terms of expression adaptable and suitable to the needs and aspirations of our own day and age.

The purpose of the following pages of illustrations of the work of our Wood Carving Studios is to suggest to you the possibilities of our service in developing every ideal of a true church home.

Among the many pieces portrayed will be found a considerable number which have been presented as memorials, or as adornments to the church in which they are placed. This old and revered custom is a very practical way, far reaching in its influence for good, of perpetuating spiritual influences for coming generations.

Beautiful pieces of wood carving, designed in harmony with the church interior, symbolic, and serving their due purpose in worship, can play an inspiring part. This is realized by thoughtful, loyal church members, with the result that more and more gifts of this kind are being made.

The technique of wood carving has been handed down through generations of wood carvers in and about Oberammergau, for centuries the centre of ecclesiastical wood carving, and we have drawn upon this centre for the group of skilled craftsmen in our studios.

As we have, for almost half a century, been able to be of service to the churches of our country, so we look forward to years of increasing usefulness, confident that the impulses of religious worship and service can only grow stronger with time.



WITHIN KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL,
CAMBRIDGE

*Tax not the Royal Saint with vain expense
With ill-match'd aims the Architect who plann'd
(Albeit labouring for a scanty band
Of white-robed Scholars only) this immense*

*And glorious work of fine intelligence!
—Give all thou canst; high Heaven rejects the lore
Of nicely-calculated less or more:—
So deem'd the man who fashion'd for the sense*

*These lofty pillars, spread that branching roof
Self poised, and scoop'd into ten thousand cells
Where light and shade repose, where music dwells*

*Lingering—and wandering on as loth to die;
Like thoughts whose very sweetness yieldeth proof
That they were born for immortality.*

—William Wordsworth

Note

The illustrations in the following pages represent actual wood carving, executed in our studios, and not to be confused with applied, pressed composition, or cast work.

To the architect we offer thorough co-operation in the interpretation and faithful execution of his designs and specifications; or in designing fitments to conform to his architectural treatment.

In these pages due credit is given in cases where we have carried out architects' designs. The other pieces shown were designed, as well as executed, in our Wood Carving Studios.



MEMORIAL LITANY DESK
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY



PRIE-DIEU
DESIGNED FOR HIS GRACE
THE BISHOP OF INDIANAPOLIS



MEMORIAL LITANY DESK
TRINITY CATHEDRAL
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Designed by Charles Schweinfurth, Architect



HIGH PULPIT
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Designed by Benjamin G. McDougall, Architect



CLERGY CHAIR
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Designed by Benjamin G. McDougall, Architect



MEMORIAL PULPIT
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA



HIGH PULPIT
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
WADSWORTH, OHIO

Designed by Reynolds H. Hinsdale, Architect



SANCTUARY WAINSCOT AND BISHOP'S CHAIR
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN



THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

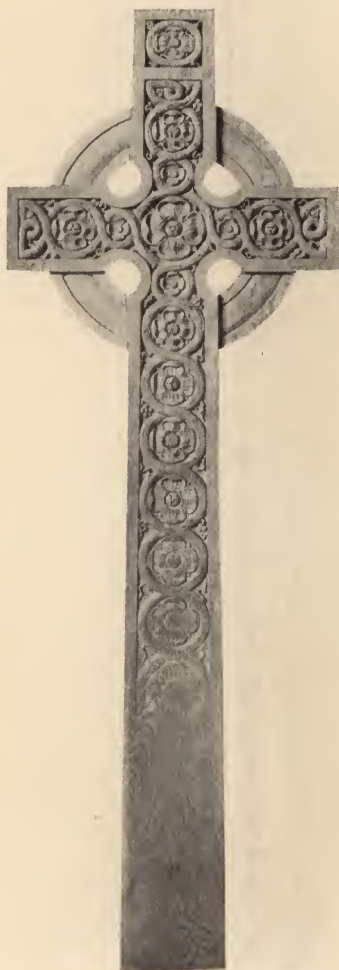


CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
DETAIL OF CARVED WOOD PANELING
FOR SANCTUARY WAINSCOT



TRI-SEAT
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Designed by James R. M. Morrison, Architect



DETAIL OF THE TRI-SEAT SHOWN ON
THE PAGE OPPOSITE



BISHOP'S CHAIR AND CLERGY SEAT
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
YORK HARBOR, MAINE

Designed by Henry J. Hardenbergh, Architect



MEMORIAL CLERGY CHAIR AND PRAYER DESK
CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK



CLERGY CHAIR AND PRIE-DIEU
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Designed by Prindeville & Egan, Architects



COMMUNION TABLE
PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

Designed by German & Jenssen, Architects



MEMORIAL CHOIR, ORGAN SCREENS, AND PULPIT
GRACE CATHEDRAL, TOPEKA, KANSAS



MEMORIAL PULPIT
GRACE CATHEDRAL
TOPEKA, KANSAS



MEMORIAL ALTAR
GRACE CATHEDRAL, TOPEKA, KANSAS



ALTAR AND REREDOS
FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



REREDOS
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



THE SUPPER AT EMMAUS



MELCHIZEDEK

PANELS IN REREDOS
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



ALTAR
CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA



KING DAVID



ST. CUTHBERT



HYMN BOARD



PASCHAL CANDLESTICK
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Designed by Prindeville & Egan, Architects



MEMORIAL BAPTISMAL FONT
RAVENSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON



ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



ST. LUKE



ST. JOHN



PANEL
THE ANNUNCIATION



PANEL
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST



PELICAN PANEL



CONFESSIONAL
CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK



CONFESSIONAL
ST. AGNES' CHURCH
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Designed by John T. Comes, Architect



SEDILIA
TRINITY CATHEDRAL
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Designed by Charles W. Schweinfurth, Architect



STATION OF THE CROSS



LEONARDO DA VINCI'S "THE LAST SUPPER"

A RENDERING IN SCULPTURED WOOD

BY

ALOIS LANG



ROOD BEAM



ANGEL LECTERN



ALOIS LANG ▸ MASTER CARVER

—
A CORNER IN THE
WOOD CARVING STUDIOS



